

Comment on Petition 04-160

I have been a broadcast engineer since 1970. In that time I have seen the public service aspect of AM and FM broadcasters deteriorate significantly. A large percentage of stations seem to only care about their commercial content. There are exceptions, of course, but more and more fit the mold.

I have enjoyed XM Radio as it offers music and content selections that are simply unavailable anywhere on AM or FM. It is a logical extension for XM to provide traffic and weather along with this. It's certainly a great convenience and a real public service.

When a catastrophe strikes, the satellites will be far above it and essentially immune to weather events. It's a natural that they be able to provide essential information. I strongly support having this service carried on XM Radio. I urge rejection of Petition 04-160 as proposed by the NAB.

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